



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
210 Walnut Street, Room 693  
Des Moines, IA 50309-2180

February 28, 2012

IOWA BULLETIN NO. 190-12-5

SUBJECT: ECS - IOWA PLANT MATERIALS FIELD PLANTINGS FOR FY 2012

ACTION REQUIRED BY: APRIL 16, 2012

PURPOSE: To solicit field office response for potential plant materials field plantings.

EXPIRATION DATE: September 30, 2013

The Elsberry Plant Materials Program 2012 Iowa Field Plantings is in search of planting sites.

SPECIES	MLRA	PRACTICE	SUITABILITY GROUP	PLANT DESCRIPTION*
<b>1) 9083274 selection (Proposed name of Epic) Big Bluestem</b> <i>Andropogon gerardii</i>  <b>Compared with Rountree variety Big Bluestem</b>	Any	<b>Practice 512 Forage and Biomass Production.</b> <b>Total size of 2 acres</b> <b>1.0 acre of Big Bluestem 9083274 proposed name of (Epic) Big Bluestem compared to 1.0 acre variety(Rountree) Big Bluestem.</b>  Establishing adapted and/or compatible species, varieties, or cultivars of herbaceous species suitable for pasture, hay, or biomass production.	<b>Sites:</b> Loamy upland, clay upland.	The original collection for the Big Bluestem selection was from Logan County Arkansas it was selected for tall 6-7', erect, lodging resistance, it was increased for advanced testing . Yield av. For 9083274 Big Bluestem at Elsberry PMC was 5 tons/acre.  The variety Rountree was a collection from Monona County Iowa the Loess Hills area, for proven forage performance.

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Elsberry PMC

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<b>2) 9083274 selection (Proposed name of Epic) Big Bluestem</b> <i>Andropogon gerardii</i>  <b>Compared with Rountree variety Big Bluestem</b>	Any	<b>Practice-386 Field Borders Total Size 1.0 acre minimum wide of 30' 0.5 acre of 9083274 proposed name of (Epic) Big Bluestem compared to 0.5 acre variety(Rountree) Big Bluestem.</b>  Establish stiff-stemmed, upright grasses, to trap wind- or water-borne soil particles. Seeding mixtures shall comply with Critical Area standard	<b>Sites:</b> Silt loam or clay loam soils were wind erosion or water erosion is a concern	The original collection for 9083274 Big Bluestem selection was from Logan County Arkansas it was selected for tall 6-7', erect, lodging resistance and stand ability during the winter.  The variety Rountree was a collection from Monona County Iowa the Loess Hills for proven forage performance.
<b>3) Bobwhite soybeans</b> <i>Glycine sp.</i>	Any	<b>Practice 340-Cover crops-Summer Annual cover crop for 2 acre using Bobwhite Trailing soybeans</b>	<b>Site –Organic Production Suppression of annual summer weeds for fall planted or following spring crop.</b>	The variety of Bobwhite soybeans was released as a wildlife food source; a small soybean that has the potential to reseed itself. Bobwhite is competitive with tall weeds and can be planted with domestic plants such as milo, pearl millet, sudan, sesbania. The wild trailing soybean is an aggressive plant that can vine up to 20 feet which provides a dense cover to suppress weeds.

Please respond with **potential planting sites by April 16, 2012** to Jerry Kaiser ([jerry.kaiser@mo.usda.gov](mailto:jerry.kaiser@mo.usda.gov)), Plant Materials Specialist. Jerry will e-mail a NRCS-ECS-9 (Planting Plan for Field, Special, and Increase Plantings) for your completion. The field planting ECS-9 requests will be reviewed and prioritized. (Please note that not all requests will be able to receive plant materials.) Notification of final planting sites will be contacted.

Contact Jerry Kaiser, 573-898-2012, Elsberry PMC, if you have questions.

/s/Adam Stiegelmeier, Acting  
Richard Sims  
State Conservationist